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**Place 3**

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## HUTTO HEADLINES

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### **Ensuring Hutto's Safety Part 3: Williamson County EMS Vision**

"Ensuring Hutto's Safety" is a series of educational presentations for the City Council to begin mapping the future of Hutto's public safety services. With the community's continued growth, this series is an opportunity to begin working on customizing the delivery of services for the continued safety of Hutto residents. The series is designed to provide information on Hutto's needs and to explore emerging trends and technological advances to secure Hutto's future as a safe city. On Thursday, May 21st, Kenny Schnell, Director of Emergency Medical Services for Williamson County, addressed the future vision of the EMS System here in Hutto.

In Hutto, EMS services are facilitated through Williamson County Emergency Medical Services. When you call 911, EMS is dispatched through Williamson County Emergency Communications. Although only one ambulance is housed at Hutto Fire Rescue, Williamson County Emergency Communications manages an intricate network of regional commanders and station lieutenants to move resources wherever they may be needed throughout the County. With Hutto's growing population, calls for service are on the rise. However, this coordinated effort to keep ambulances on the move helps ensure that Hutto residents will always have the best in customer service.

On average, Williamson County EMS runs two calls for service per day with an average response time of 6.48 minutes each in Hutto, beating the County average of 7.5 minutes.

During the discussion, City Council learned that Williamson County medics are chosen after an extensive hiring process for qualified applicants, a six-week academy and rigorous competency based-field training. Paramedics also complete an array of continuing education courses and timely training to keep up with the demands of the job. From learning new technology to perfecting proven methods, education is a top priority. All of these measures are set in place to ensure Williamson County communities will receive the utmost care and attention when an emergency strikes.

Williamson County EMS demonstrated that the Williamson County system works because multiple agencies are working together. The County has successfully handled medical care in larger cities, smaller towns and cities in transition. Prompt response, courteous and compassionate service, and competent medical care is the goal no matter the size of the community.

With a focus on patient outcomes, a tried and true system and attention to technology, Hutto is in good hands.

Questions? Contact Christina Kane-Gibson, City of Hutto Public Information Officer, at [christina.kane-gibson@huttotx.gov](mailto:christina.kane-gibson@huttotx.gov) or call (512)759-4034.

